

In Sports: A look back Manchester, Northfield and Southwood's varsity girls basketball seasons. **Page A9 and A10**

Wabash Plain Dealer

\$3

Wednesday, February 23, 2022

Tomorrow's weather **35** | **24**



Pulse
of Wabash

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Manchester Values, Ideas and the Arts series continues

Presentations are at 11 a.m. Mondays in Cordier Auditorium on the North Manchester campus unless otherwise noted. All except the "Spaces" concert are free and open to the public. Masks and social distancing are required. Other presentations will also be live-streamed on the Manchester Facebook page. Check the schedule at www.manchester.edu/academics/VIA for updates. Feb. 28 - "Meant for So Much More" is the topic of President Dave McFadden's Spring Convocation.

See **PULSE**, page A4

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Library renovation, expansion remain 'overdue' after rejection

WCPL board rejects all received bids; will review the project again

By **ROB BURGESS**
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

A long-planned renovation and expansion of the Wabash Carnegie Public Library (WCPL) will remain "overdue" as the

board has rejected all received bids for the project.

WCPL executive director Ware Wimberly said they had been looking to begin the project sometime this year.

"Both the original building, completed in 1903, and the 1972 addition have served the Wabash community very well," said Wimberly. "The proposed project will ensure that the building is safe and sound

for decades to come, along with creating a more modern and user-friendly environment with the necessary system upgrades. In addition, the project will enhance current services and provide other services that the library can't offer due to space limitations."

Wimberly said the project went to bid at the beginning of this year and the WCPL board received four proposals in early February.

"Due to current market conditions, the bids were higher than what we planned for," said Wimberly.

Wimberly said of the four received bids, the highest was for \$5,437,000 and the lowest bid was \$4,529,682. There were two other bids of total amounts of \$4,699,000, and \$5,323,000,

See **LIBRARY**, page A2

Get down with the kings of swing



Provided photo

Big Bad Voodoo Daddy is set to play at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 26 at the Honeywell Center's Ford Theater.

Big Bad Voodoo Daddy to play Saturday at the Honeywell Center

By **ROB BURGESS**
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

One of the most recognizable modern swing bands is headed to Wabash after a long, pandemic-related delay.

Big Bad Voodoo Daddy is set to play at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 26 at the Honeywell Center's Ford Theater.

"Big Bad Voodoo Daddy presents swing music of the '40s and '50s in a live performance like you've never seen before," said Honeywell Arts & Entertainment public relations specialist Michele DeVinney. "This sizzling, high-energy group is known as much for their music as they are for living the swing-era lifestyle with classic suits and fedoras."

Welcomed by 105.9 The Bash, and sponsored by Kirtlan Automotive, most seats for the show are \$29 or \$39, with limited premium seating available for \$100. To purchase tickets, call 260-563-1102 or visit www.honeywellarts.org.

"It's good to be back out on the road. You know how it is when you're at home and you become a homebody kind of, but it was so good to get back out on the road and play music," said the band's drummer and co-creator Kurt Sodergren, during a recent phone interview with the Plain Dealer. "I'm just super excited to come. We're really, really excited. It's been a long 18 months and I hope people come out. We're going to do a great show. It'll be a retrospec-

tive of almost all of our music. It should be a blast."

Sodergren also took time to discuss the band's musical beginnings, their rise to fame, their appearance in the movie "Swingers" and more.

From punk to swing

Sodergren said growing up, his father "had a great record collection."

"He had everything," said Sodergren.

Sodergren said the eclectic nature of the music he grew up with introduced him to everyone from Benny Goodman to Led Zeppelin to Jimi Hendrix to Emerson, Lake and Palmer.

"I had a pretty good, pretty wide palette to work from," said Sodergren.

Sodergren said when he first

began to be interested in punk rock music in high school, he appreciated the do-it-yourself ethic.

"Anyone could do it if you had something to say," said Sodergren. "I didn't really play very much, but I loved music and then I noticed my friends were playing in a band. I didn't even know any of them could play music. And they were just kind of learning but they just got out there and started doing it. So that's what kind of inspired me."

Sodergren said even while he was playing punk rock music, he still gravitated towards the showmanship and energy of jazz drummers like Gene Krupa and Buddy Rich.

See **SWING**, page A3

WCSD: Silver Alert for missing teenage girl canceled

Brooklyn King-Whitt, 14, of Wabash, was 'believed to be in extreme danger'

By **ROB BURGESS**
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

A Statewide Silver Alert declared late Saturday, Feb. 19 for a missing local teenage girl was canceled early Sunday, Feb. 20 by the Wabash County Sheriff's Department (WCSD).

The WCSD had been investigating the disappearance of Brooklyn Whitt-King, a 14-year-old white female, 5 feet 6 inches tall, 100 pounds, brown hair with blue eyes, who had been last seen wearing a white hoodie and ripped jeans.

Whitt-King had been missing from Wabash and was last seen at 10 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 19.

"She is believed to be in extreme danger," stated the alert.

However, early on the morning of Sunday, Feb. 20, the

See **ALERT**, page A2

Conflict transformation workshop offered at Manchester

The skills and concepts taught are ideal for team-oriented occupations

By **CHLOE LECKRONE**

Education for Conflict Resolution (ECR) offers "An Introduction to Conflict Transformation," a two-day workshop, on Saturday, March 5, and Saturday, March 12.

It is from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on both days. The training will be in the Academic Center on the Manchester University campus in North Manchester. The workshop will be

See **WORKSHOP**, page A2

WHS choir students earn gold at the state ISSMA contest

Over a dozen WHS students competed Saturday, Feb. 19 in Indianapolis

By **ROB BURGESS**
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

Last weekend, over a dozen Wabash High School (WHS) students competed at the Indiana State School Music Association (ISSMA) Piano and Vocal District Contest.

A total of 14 WHS choir members participated Saturday, Feb. 19 at Perry Meridian High School in Indianapolis.

Seven of the nine entries earned "superior," or gold-medal ratings, while the other two earned "excellent," or silver-medal scores, said WHS choir teacher Mark Nevil. All performers are members of the WHS choirs, which are directed by Nevil.

Vocal soloists who earned a gold medal included senior Marcus Haynes, senior Quinn

Haynes, senior Jordan Jones and sophomore Mollie Friend. Senior Brenden Rowan gained a silver medal for his solo.

The Group I Men's Small Ensemble, the "Airmen," claimed five medals of the highest caliber, "Gold With Distinction," for their perfect score performance.

In the Small Ensembles Group I division, the men's barbershop quartet of Marcus Haynes, Quinn Haynes, Ethan

See **ISSMA**, page A2



Provided photo

The Wabash High School (WHS) "SymphonAirs" are, from left to right, front row: Paloma Shull, Mollie Friend, Maegan Poe, Breanna Keefer, Eva Sears, Jordan Jones and Karigan Long. From left to right, second row: Morgan Butcher, Brenden Rowan, Ethan Haynes, Xavier Hughes, Quinn Haynes, Marcus Haynes and Kiara Carmichael.



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WORKSHOP

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facilitated by Theresa Onderko, director of the ECR-MU Collaboration, who will verse participants in communication, mediation and reconciliation. The skills and concepts taught are ideal for team-oriented occupations.

The cost is \$25 for Manchester University students (will be reimbursed \$15 by the Peace Studies

program after payment), \$50 for Manchester University faculty, staff and alumni, and \$100 for non-MU participants.

Register at <http://www.workitout.org/focus-up-coming-events/>.

ECR provides community-based and school-based conflict resolution training and promotes peaceful, productive resolutions to conflict.

Chloe Leckrone is a communications and media relations intern at Manchester University.

ALERT

From page A1

WCSD canceled the alert.

The WCSD did not respond to a request for further information about the cancellation as of press time.






If you have any information on the case, call the WCSD at 260-563-1111 or 911.

No further information was available as of press time.

This story will be updated as more information becomes available.





Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

5-Day Weather Summary

 Wednesday Mostly Cloudy 36 / 27	 Thursday Rain Likely 35 / 24	 Friday Mostly Cloudy 30 / 14	 Saturday Partly Cloudy 34 / 22	 Sunday Mostly Cloudy 33 / 13
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Sun and Moon

Today's sunset 6:28 p.m.
Tomorrow's sunrise 7:23 a.m.

 Last 2/23	 New 3/2	 First 3/10	 Full 3/18
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Detailed Local Outlook

Today we will see mostly cloudy skies with a high temperature of 36°, humidity of 62%. West wind 8 to 13 mph. Expect cloudy skies tonight with a 65% chance of scattered snow, overnight low of 28°. North northeast wind 9 mph. The wind chill for tonight could reach 20°.

ISSMA

From page A1

Haynes and Brenden Rowen won a Gold Medal. The women's sextet led by Senior Jordan Jones earned a Silver medallion. Additional members were Karigan Long, Eva Sears, Mollie Friend, Paloma Shull and Breanna Keefer.

"In a Wabash High School first, the 'SymphonAirs' entered the most difficult category for mixed, men and women,

ensembles, 'Madrigal,'" said Nevil. "All madrigal entries must be performed a cappella, without accompaniment. This is also the only division which allows participants to perform in period costumes."

The 'SymphonAirs' are Morgan Butcher, Kiara Carmichael, Mollie Friend, Ethan Haynes, Marcus Haynes, Quinn Haynes, Xavier Hughes, Jordan Jones, Breanna Keefer, Karigan Long, Maegan Poe, Brenden Rowan, Eva Sears and Paloma Shull.

The previous weekend's district music competitions had been rescheduled due to the winter storm which blanketed the state earlier this month. The ISSMA rescheduled all District Solo and Ensemble Festivals originally scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 5 to the predetermined weather date of Saturday, Feb. 12, said ISSMA executive director Mick Bridgewater.

When the competition was finally held, 39 WHS students participated in the annual ISS-

MA Piano and Vocal District Contest held on Saturday, Feb. 12 at Fairfield Jr/Sr High School in Goshen, said Nevil. All the gold medalists in the Group I category of solos and ensembles qualified for state competition, and competed on Saturday, Feb. 19 at the state competition.

In addition to the WHS students, 30 students from Wabash Middle School (WMS) also participated in the district contest on Saturday, Feb. 12. Seven of the eight WMS entries earned "superior," gold-medal ratings, while the other earned an "excellent," silver-medal score.

Vocal soloists who earned a gold medal were Brett Shull, Aaliyah Frasure, Amaya Sellers, Elli Hall, John Harris, and Lily Meadows. Gold-score medalists for their Large Ensemble performing Misty Morning were: Aaliyah Frasure, Kinzie Flack, Amaya Sellers, Lily Meadows, Christy Howard, Aubreyanna Jordan, Brett Shull, Matthew Niles and John Harris.

Silver medals went to the "Afternoon on a Hill" ensemble consisting of Elli Hall, Keisha Wilcox, Makenna Bechtold, Sally Harrell, Olivia Shepler, Sabrina Frank, Braelyn Eis, Violet George, Aubree Bostater, and Lily-Ann Abshire.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.



Provided photos

The Wabash Middle School (WMS) ensemble prepares to perform on the stage of Fairfield Jr / Sr High School, including, Keisha Wilcox, Olivia Shepler, Sally Harrell, Makenna Bechtold, Elli Hall, Sabrina Frank, Violet George, Lily-Ann Abshire, Aubree Bostater and Braelyn Eis.



The winning Wabash Middle School (WMS) ensemble sports their gold medals, including, front row, from left to right: Aubreyanna Jordan, Christy Howard, John Harris and choir director Mark Nevil. Second row, from left to right: Kinzie Flack, Lily Meadows, Aaliyah Frasure and Matthew Niles.

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LIBRARY

From page A1

respectively.

Wimberly said as a result, the board, in consultation with its architect, rejected all of the bids at its Tuesday, Feb. 15 board meeting.

"While we are disappointed that the bids came in as high as they did, we intend to move forward with our plans. In the coming weeks we will review the project, revising our timeline and our approach to funding," said Wimberly. "We believe this project will enhance library service to the community as well as long-term quality of life."

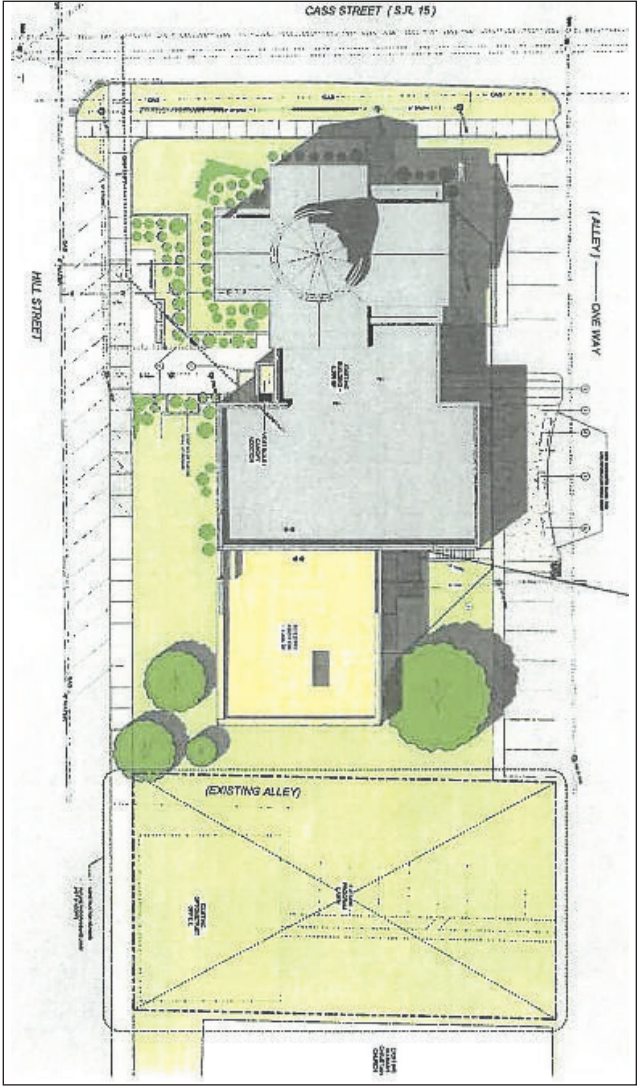
Wimberly said they had a "very general footprint of where we anticipate the area to be expanded to."

"But I would hesitate to go beyond that detail-wise until a bid is accepted," said Wimberly.

Wimberly said they had a "preliminary drawing of how we envisioned it to be expanded within the project."


"But we need to review a number of parts moving forward," said Wimberly.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.



Provided graphic

This preliminary drawing shows the areas of the WCPL building being considered to be renovated and expanded.



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Obituaries

SWING

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Sodergren said he and lead singer and guitarist Scotty Morris started playing together in about 1990 or 1991 as “kind of a heavy blues trio.” Sodergren said Morris told him he wanted to start playing swing music in about 1993. “I had never played it ... but I was into it and we knew some people who had some horns. So we just kind of got in a band and just did it and learned as we went,” said Sodergren.

The swing revival craze

The early ’90s set the stage for the swing music revival craze which would take hold across the country a few years later. Sodergren said it was at this time Royal Crown Revue entered their consciousness along with similar acts like the Brian Setzer Orchestra. “I think it was just happening,” said Sodergren. “I wasn’t trying to emulate anyone because I didn’t know anyone was doing it. Then it kind of came on our radar.” After the style started to become popular in the mid-1990s, many other acts joined the fray.

“Other bands that were great came out and started doing it as well,” said Sodergren. “And you could sort of tell the ones that were doing it just because of the money and the ones that were doing it because they loved the music. I had a job. I didn’t even think I would be a musician as a living until it just sort of happened. I just loved it.”

‘Swingers’

Big Bad Voodoo Daddy caught their big break after being prominently featured in several scenes of the 1996 movie, “Swingers.” Sodergren said during the mid-1990s, they went to see Royal Crown Revue, who had a residency at the famous Brown Derby restaurant in Los Angeles. “We were blown away,” said Sodergren. “They were really, really good. And so we knew, ‘Oh, shoot.’ We were approaching it kind of from a punk rock aspect. Just, ‘Let’s go out and do it.’ But those guys, they had it down. So we had something to shoot for at that point as far as musicianship and just the level of their showmanship and how amazing they were. So we hunkered down and we (wood) shedded and we played as much as we could.”

All that hard work eventually paid off. Sodergren said Big Bad Voodoo Daddy ended up being offered that same residency when Royal Crown Revue was signed to Warner Brothers Records. “They were too busy, so we started playing there every Wednesday and building up a following,” said Sodergren. Sodergren said it was through this residency that they met the writer, director and lead actor of “Swingers,” Jon Favreau, who offered them a showcase in the film. “I guess he had asked Royal Crown if they wanted to do it and they said, ‘No,’” said Sodergren. “So then he asked us because we were friends and of course, we wanted to do it. It wasn’t really for any pay it was just, ‘Yeah.’ And so they came and filmed a couple of our Wednesday nights. We did the soundtrack there at the Derby. We took some mics up for the movie at least. We were just friends with them and that was how it worked.”

Sodergren said once the movie was released, their fan base swelled almost instantly. “We were on the road and we were doing a run in our van from like California to New York and back and all of a sudden there was just lines around the corner,” said Sodergren. “We couldn’t believe it. We knew that when we saw the movie because the movie was so good. We thought this has got to do something. Of course it did something for the actors, but man we reaped some serious benefits from that.” Sodergren said without social media or the internet as

we know it today, there were far fewer ways for a band to be noticed back then. “There was no Instagram. So that was like our calling card. Because how would someone in New York even have heard of us?” said Sodergren. “By the time we got to New York people knew who we were and the only reason was because of that movie. That was our promotion. Now you have Instagram and people can know you all around the world, but at that time, that wasn’t the way it worked. It gave us a leg up, for sure.”

From movies to TV

After Big Bad Voodoo Daddy made their big-screen debut in “Swingers,” they also made their way to the small screen. They performed at the Super Bowl halftime show in 1999 along with Stevie Wonder and Gloria Estefan. That same year, the band was invited to re-record the theme song for the fifth season of the sitcom “3rd Rock From the Sun.” Sodergren said in addition to the theme, the band also recorded several small interstitial cues. “We went into the studio and we actually did a bunch of quick, four- or five-second musical breaks. Because they did that a lot in the show. They’d say something funny and then there’d be this musical break kind of a thing. That was pretty fun,” said Sodergren.

Christmas music

Since the early days of the band, Big Bad Voodoo Daddy has been heavily associated with Christmas, releasing several holiday-themed albums throughout their career. One of the best-known Christmas songs the band plays is their version of “Mr. Heatmiser,” originally from the 1974 stop-motion animation TV special, “The Year Without a Santa Claus.” The band’s double bassist and vocalist Dirk Shumaker sings the lead on the song. “That is so fun. Dirk is such a great showman and such a good singer. His ‘Mr. Heat Miser’ is great,” said Sodergren. Sodergren said they were always “big fans” of Christmas and played many parties, including Christmas parties, since early in their career, recording a now out-of-print Christmas EP. In 2004, they released the Christmas album, “Everything You Want for Christmas.” “Someone proposed the actual Christmas tour, and so we did it and it worked really well,” said Sodergren. Sodergren said that was so successful, they followed it with their 2013 album, “It Feels Like Christmas Time.” “We just thought people were maybe people are getting tired of our wacky takes on Christmas songs and might want to hear something more traditional, so we did that second Christmas record,” said Sodergren. “It’s been really great. Every December we’re gone.”

Advice to younger musicians

Sodergren said when he still learning his craft, he had a “great” music teacher named Al Velasquez. Sodergren said when he told him he wanted to play swing music he gave him some helpful reading material to start with to encourage him. “I think he just always wanted to make sure I was having fun doing what I was doing,” said Sodergren. “I started to get a little bit stressed out because I wasn’t as aware of the style as I wanted to be. I could do it OK, but I really wanted to be good at it. He told me, ‘You just work hard and practice and make sure to always have fun.’ And I think that was really great advice and that’s what I would really tell anyone. We’re doing this for fun. So, always do that. Don’t be hard on yourself. Keep work, keep striving. If you practice you can learn anything.”

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

Christine ‘Chris’ Kae Johnson

April 9, 1953 – Feb. 12, 2022

Christine “Chris” Kae Johnson is at home with Jesus following her death on Feb. 12, 2022 at Candler St. Joseph Hospital, Savannah, Georgia. Chris was born to Charles and Jeanette (Schmalzried) Schnepf on April 9, 1953 in Wabash, IN. Chris was a graduate of the Northfield High School Class of 1971. She was a long-time resident of Wabash, IN where she worked as a Histology Technician at the Wabash County Hospital and Marion General Hospital. She also resided in Ohio for several years before moving to Georgia to be near her children and grandchildren. Chris had an affable personality and never met a stranger. She enjoyed life and making friends. Chris dearly loved her children and grandchildren. She also loved animals, especially her sweet dog, Daisy, who gave her great joy. Chris was an excellent cook and enjoyed sharing her baking with others. She had quite a “green thumb” and loved gardening and the beauty of nature. While living in Savannah, Chris attended Compassion Christian Church. She had an unwavering faith in Jesus, her Savior, which she easily



shared with those around her. Surviving Chris are her sons, Shawn (Victoria) Brainard, Cartersville, GA and Ryan (Melanie) Brainard, Savannah; grandchildren, Isabella Brainard of Cartersville, Madeline and Noah Brainard, both of Savannah; brother, Todd Schnepf. Chris was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Faye Johnson; sister, Melinda Schnepf; and a brother, Craig Schnepf. A Celebration of Life service will be held at Compassion Christian Church, East Campus in Savannah at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, March 25, 2022. Please visit www.foxandweeks.com to sign our online guestbook.

Kay Marie Cooper

Aug. 2, 1938 – Feb. 15, 2022

Kay Marie Cooper, 83, of Wabash, Indiana, died at 3:50 pm, Tuesday, Feb. 15, 2022, at Wellbrooke of Wabash. She was born on Aug. 2, 1938, in Wabash, to Lee G. and Wilma (Hawley) McNeeley. Kay attended Wabash High School for 10 years before attending and graduating from Noble High School in 1956. She was a homemaker. Kay married Terry E. Cooper in Wabash on Nov. 9, 1958; he died March 6, 1999. She was a former longtime member of Wabash Christian Missionary Alliance Church, and also attended Wabash North Wesleyan Church. Kay worked part time for 13 years for Joy Christian Bookstore in Wabash. She enjoyed needlework, reading, and especially loved her family. She is survived by four children, Mark Cooper of Peru, Indiana, Jeffery Cooper of Wabash, Robert “Scott” (Rhonda) Cooper of Claypool, Indiana, and April Dawn (Dave) O’Neal of Liberty Center, Indiana, 13 grandchildren, and several great-grandchildren. She was also preceded in death by her parents, granddaughter, Erin Wrisk, daughter-in-law, Valerie Cooper, sister, Elizabeth McNeeley, and brother, Bill McNeeley. Funeral services will be 11:00 am, Saturday, Feb. 19, 2022, at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Avenue, Wabash, with Kevin VanDuyne officiating. Burial will be in Memorial Lawns Cemetery, Wabash. Friends may call 9:00 – 11:00 am Saturday, at the funeral home. Preferred memorial is Riley Children’s Hospital. The memorial guest book for Kay may be signed at www.grandstaff-hentgen.com.



per of Wabash, Robert “Scott” (Rhonda) Cooper of Claypool, Indiana, and April Dawn (Dave) O’Neal of Liberty Center, Indiana, 13 grandchildren, and several great-grandchildren. She was also preceded in death by her parents, granddaughter, Erin Wrisk, daughter-in-law, Valerie Cooper, sister, Elizabeth McNeeley, and brother, Bill McNeeley. Funeral services will be 11:00 am, Saturday, Feb. 19, 2022, at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Avenue, Wabash, with Kevin VanDuyne officiating. Burial will be in Memorial Lawns Cemetery, Wabash. Friends may call 9:00 – 11:00 am Saturday, at the funeral home. Preferred memorial is Riley Children’s Hospital. The memorial guest book for Kay may be signed at www.grandstaff-hentgen.com.

Jerry Eugene Boocher

Jerry Eugene Boocher, 78, North Manchester, passed away on Feb. 21, 2022 at Parkview Regional Medical Center in Fort Wayne, Indiana. The loving memory of Jerry Eugene Boocher will be forever cherished by his son, Kelly (Kimberly) Boocher; brothers, Allan (Rosalyn) Boocher and Arden (Carol)

Boocher; sisters, Judy (Dennis) Cripe, and Beverly (Mike) Rice; and five grandchildren. Family and friends may call Feb. 25, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at McKee Mortuary, 1401 State Road 114 West, North Manchester, Indiana. Funeral services will begin at the conclusion of calling.

Kathy Ann (Swain) Overlander

June 25, 1954 – Feb. 18, 2022

Kathy Ann (Swain) Overlander, age 67 died on Feb. 18, 2022 at 5:54 p.m. at her residence in Akron, Indiana. She was born in Wabash, Indiana on June 25, 1954 to Arville and Joyce (Moore) Swain. Kathy lived most of her life in Akron. Growing up in Roann, Indiana, she attended North Miami High School. On Nov. 5, 1993 in Paintsville, Kentucky, Kathy married Lewie Overlander and established their home in Akron. Kathy worked in home health care and Hospice mostly in Wabash County. She enjoyed making crafts, crocheting and sewing. She was an animal lover and took care of stray, injured and ill animals and found them new homes. Kathy bred and sold African Gray Parrots. Surviving Kathy are (5) children: Beth Bahney of Denver, IN; Lia (spouse Jose) Rosas of Akron, IN; Jessica (spouse Robert) Bentley of Claypool, IN; Cori Groninger of Akron, IN; Cody Groninger of Fort Wayne, IN (1) sister: Debbie Stevens of Wabash, IN (13) grandchildren and (10) great-grandchildren Special Friends: Claudia Hartzler and Mike and Kitty



Meeks Preceding Kathy in death: parents, sister, Rosemary Storberg and husband, Lewie Overlander (January 31, 2020) A graveside service will be held on Thursday, Feb. 24, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. at the Akron IOOF Cemetery in Akron, Indiana officiated by Julie Caiten-Walker. Family and friends are invited to attend. Memorial contributions can be made to: Fulton County Animal Center, 1540 Wentzel Street, Rochester, IN 46975 Online condolences can be sent to www.earllovefuneralhome.com The staff of Earl-Love Funeral Home considers it a privilege and an honor to care for the family and friends of Kathy Overlander.

Norman Lee Benjamin

Dec. 26, 1946 – Feb. 18, 2022

Norman Lee Benjamin, 75, of Wabash, Indiana, died at 11:44 pm, Friday, Feb. 18, 2022, at Parkview Regional Medical Center in Fort Wayne. He was born on Dec. 26, 1946, in Kankakee, Illinois, to Leroy and Violet (Mook) Benjamin. Norm was a 1965 graduate of Kankakee High School. He married Elizabeth Nelda Ann “Betty” Boudreau in Bourbonnais, Illinois on April 26, 1969; she died Jan. 28, 2020. Norm was part owner and President of Bulldog Battery in Wabash from 1985 until his retirement in 2018. He was a member of the St. Bernard Catholic Church in Wabash, the American Wood Turners Association of America and the National Rifle Association.



He enjoyed woodworking and building H.O. scale model railroads. He is survived by two sons, Dennis L. Benjamin and Walter C. Benjamin, both of Wabash. He was also preceded in death by his parents, and his brother, David Benjamin. Funeral services will be 2:00 pm, Friday, Feb. 25, 2022, at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Ave. Wabash, with Father Levi Nkwocha officiating. Burial will be in Memorial Lawns Cemetery, Wabash. Friends may call 4-7:30 pm Thursday, at the funeral home, with a Rosary service at 7:30 pm. The memorial guest book for Norm may be signed at www.grandstaff-hentgen.com.

Reta Y. Bahney

June 3, 1937 – Feb. 19, 2022

Reta Y. Bahney, 84, of rural Akron, Indiana passed at 6:06 am, Saturday, Feb. 19, 2022. Reta was born on June 3, 1937. A memorial service will take place at 1:00 pm, Saturday, March 19, 2022 at Hartzler Funeral Home 305 West Rochester Street Akron, Indiana. Following the service military rites will be performed by the Fulton County Honor Guard.

A private interment will take place following the service in the Akron Cemetery, Akron, Indiana. Memorial visitation will be from 11 am to 1 pm, Saturday, March 19, 2022 at Hartzler Funeral Home 305 West Rochester Street Akron, Indiana. Share a Memory or send an Online Condolence at: www.hartzlerfuneral.com

IN BRIEF

Honeywell House to host a presentation from lighting designer Rick Baxter

“Lighting the Stars on the Great White Way!” brings lighting designer Rick Baxter to the Honeywell House at 7 p.m. Tuesday, according to Honeywell Arts & Entertainment public relations specialist Michele DeVinney. Baxter has turned lighting designs into reality in theaters all over the world, from Broadway to Las Vegas. Baxter has worked as a production electrician for some of the biggest shows on stage. He will share stories of people he worked with throughout his career including Carol Burnett, Mel Brooks, Crystal Gayle and Patti Lupone. Admission is free, but due to limited space reservations are required. For more information, visit honeywellarts.org.

Woman’s Clubhouse to honor Lois Van Meter

A quilt raffle in memory of Lois Van Meter will be the center of the luncheon at The Woman’s Clubhouse at noon Tuesday, March 8 at 770 W. Hill St, according to Ellen Stouffer. The “beautiful lap quilt” was made by Joan Manning. Raffle tickets will continue to be available

to purchase until the day of the program for \$5 for one, or \$10 for three. “The Sew Pieceful Guild will host the Quilters Hall of Fame, from Marion, as we honor Lois for her dedicated work with the ‘Quilts of Valor’ for veterans and her love of the Clubhouse,” said Stouffer. Reservations must be made before Saturday, March 5. For more information, call Jody LaSalle at 619-990-7088 or Carol McDonald at 260-563-2331.

Frances Slocum Chapter of the DAR to hold March meeting

The Wabash County Frances Slocum Chapter of the Indiana Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 8, at the Grandstaff-Hentgen Activity Room, 1241 Manchester Ave., according to regent Barbara Amiss. The program will be on Frances Slocum of Miami County, presented in first person by Sharon Dillman, Regent of the Nineteenth Star DAR Chapter, Peru. “Prospective members and guests are always welcome to attend,” said Amiss. “DAR membership is open to any woman 18 years of age, who can prove lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution. For more information, visit www.dar.

org or call Tamra Wise at 574-527-2208 or Amiss at 260-982-4376.

Indiana Senate panel backs bill without big tax-cut proposal

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — An Indiana Senate committee endorsed a tax proposal on Tuesday without the business and individual tax cut package potentially totaling more than \$1 billion that the House approved last month. The Senate’s tax committee voted 12-1 to advance the bill to the full Senate, where Republican leaders have cited uncertainty about the economy in resisting tax cuts despite recent big growth in state tax collections. The Senate is expected to vote on the bill next week, likely setting up negotiations in the final weeks of the legislative session as House Republicans maintain the state’s budget surplus has grown enough for sizeable tax reductions. Key parts of the House Republican plan would cut Indiana’s current individual income tax rate of 3.23 percent to 3 percent over the next four years. That would ultimately reduce state tax collections by an estimated \$500 million a year when fully implemented in 2026. The plan also proposes cuts to several business taxes, potentially worth \$700 million to \$850 million a year.

WHS plans annual College and Career Fair for Wednesday

Over 50 colleges, businesses, representatives from other post-high school career options are available

STAFF REPORT

Wabash High School (WHS) has announced that the ninth annual College and Career Fair to be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 23 on the WHS campus, according to WHS assistant principal Jeffery R. Galley.

Galley said WHS will play host to over 50 colleges, businesses and representatives from other post-high school career options. “The purpose of this College and Career Fair is to allow WHS students, and students from surrounding school corporations, to gather the necessary tools and information needed to successfully make the next step after their high school graduation,” said Galley. “As an Early College High School, WHS is dedicated to providing its students the highest level of curriculum possible while providing them with experiences and opportunities they may not otherwise have the opportunity to explore.”

For more information, call 260-563-4131.

PULSE

From page A1

March 7 – “Race and Racism, Historical and Current Experiences.” March 14 – “PeaceTech: Engineering to Change the World” by Zia Haque. April 4 – “Manchester and the United Nations: The Legacy of Andrew Cordier” by Manchester seniors Christopher Carroll and Omar Gadzhiev. April 11 – In “CommuniKate: Artalive,” Kate Billingsley offers a comic performance. April 18 – Alicia Smith presents “Environmental Justice & Community Democracy – BIPOC & Beyond.” April 25 – Mary Miller, CEO and owner of JANCOA Janitorial Services, will speak in “Dream Big.” May 2 – “Trailblazers: Honoring Manchester’s First Black Students” is the keynote address on the day Manchester is naming the Academic Center in honor of siblings Martha and Joseph Cunningham. May 9 – Manchester seniors will talk about their senior honors theses. May 15 at 3 p.m. in Cordier – Violist Derek Reeves performs the world premiere of “Spaces,” a concerto composed for him by Professor Debra Lynn, director of choral organizations and vocal studies at Manchester.

Annual Paradise Spring Historical Park event to feature ‘living history’

Paradise Spring Historical Park Board will hold its annual Paradise Spring Inc. Annual Meeting and Soup Supper Carry-In at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 23 at the Wabash County Museum’s multi-purpose room, 36 E. Market St. Attendees should enter the east door by the east parking lot. The meal is free. The event is open to the public. However, space is limited. Donations will be accepted to help maintain the cabins at Paradise Spring. Following the meal, a historical program will be provided by retired teacher Jim Needler. For more information, call 260-571-2879.

Second Harvest to hold tailgate food distributions

Second Harvest Food Bank of East Central Indiana has planned tailgate food distributions for 11 a.m. Wednesdays, Feb. 23 and March 23 at Bachelor Creek Church of Christ, 2147 Indiana 15; and noon Wednesday, March 9 at Manchester Church of the Brethren, 1306 Beckley St., North Manchester. For more information, visit www.curehunger.org, classy.org/campaign/hunger-action-month/c299182 or <https://www.givepulse.com/group/203410>.

Eagle watching Trolley No. 85 Tour on sale

Visit Wabash County has announced tickets for the Eagle Watching Trolley No. 85 Tour are now on sale. The tour will take place Saturday, Feb. 26, is \$30 per person and will begin at the Visit Wabash County Welcome Center. To purchase tickets, visit www.visitwabashcounty.com/trolley-tours, visit 221 S. Miami St. or call 260-563-7171.

Salamonie Forest Preschool underway

Preschool-age children and their adults are invited to Salamonie Forest Preschool through May for one Tuesday a month or two Tuesdays a month from 9 a.m. to noon at Salamonie Interpretive Center, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews, in Lost Bridge West State Recreation Area. Classes for the once-a-month option will be held Tuesdays, March 1, April 12 and May 3. Classes for the second meeting time each month will also be held Tuesdays, March 15, April 26 and May 17. Advance registration is required. Register by calling 260-468-2127. For more information, visit dnr.IN.gov/uwis or facebook.com/upperwabash.

Salamonie ‘Tweens Among the Trees’ Forest School underway

Children ages 6 to 13 are invited to Salamonie Forest School at 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. The class will be offered one Wednesday a month from 9 a.m. to noon at Salamonie Interpretive Center in Lost Bridge West State Recreation Area, Andrews. Classes will be held on Wednesdays, March 2 and April 20. Advance registration is required. Limited space is available. Register by calling 260-468-2127. For more information, visit dnr.IN.gov/uwis or facebook.com/upperwabash.

Wabash First Friday micro-event in March is on sale now

March’s First Friday will offer a brand new micro-event: Downtown Wabash Leprechaun-Con Bar Crawl with green beers, lucky cocktails and more. Bar-crawlers will start at the downtown Wabash office at 5 p.m. Friday, March 4, with their Leprechaun-Con T-shirt, a green key lime beer from 2Toms Brewing Co. and a bar crawl map. The Leprechaun-Con Bar Crawl tee, complimentary beer and bar crawl map are \$30 per person. To pre-order your T-shirt, visit WabashMarkeptlace.org/store/p49/bar-crawl.

Nature’s Remedy to celebrate new downtown North Manchester location

Grow Wabash County has announced that Nature’s Remedy will be hosting a grand re-opening at their new location, 121 E. Main St., North Manchester. The community is invited to attend a ribbon-cutting at the new location at noon Friday, March 4 to celebrate the occasion.

WHS graduates encouraged to apply for the Lucille Camp scholarship

Wabash High School (WHS) has announced that they are preparing to award scholarship funds that have been endowed by the Lucille Camp Scholarship Foundation. To be eligible to receive funds from the Lucille Camp Scholarship Trust, applicants must be either a 2022 graduate of WHS or a student who

graduated from WHS within the last three years, in either 2019, 2020 or 2021. Students must have not previously received grants from the trust for more than three academic years. Eligible students may not be related by blood or marriage, within a third degree of consanguinity, to an officer, director, employee or agent of the trustee, which is GBC Bank, who is actively involved in the administration of the trust or the management of its assets. Applications are available in the Guidance Office at WHS or on the Wabash City Schools (WCS) website at <https://www.apaches.k12.in.us/> under High School-Scholarships. Completed applications are due to the WHS Guidance Office by Friday, March 4. For more information, call 260-563-4131.

Grow Wabash County’s annual Salute to Ag Dinner will be Wednesday, March 9

The 2022 Salute to Ag Dinner will take place at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 9 at the Heartland REMC building, 350 Wedcor Ave. Tickets are \$25 each and sponsorship opportunities are available ranging from \$100 up to \$2,500. Register by visiting www.growwabashcounty.com/ag2022, by emailing marketing@growwabashcounty.com or by calling 260-563-5258.

Metro North and Southwood to hold kindergarten round-ups

Kindergarten round-ups have been announced for Southwood and Metro North elementary schools and MSD is ready to welcome the Class of 2035. Children who will be at least 5 years of age on or before Aug. 1, are eligible to participate in kindergarten for the 2022-2023 school year. This year’s MSD kindergarten round-ups will take place on Wednesday, March 9 at Southwood Elementary School, 840 E. Indiana 124, and Thursday, March 10 at Metro North Elementary School, 3844 W. 200 North. Families are “highly encouraged” to register for the kindergarten round-up no later than Monday, March 7. To accommodate social distancing, families will be assigned an arrival time based on their availability. Guests should be limited to only one or two adult guardians with the child. Guardians should bring a copy of the child’s official birth certificate and vaccination records with them. For younger students, it’s also time to begin enrollment for the 2022-2023 Little Norse and Little Knights Preschool programs. Children who will be either ages 3 or 4 by Aug. 1 are eligible to enroll. Preschool tuition is around \$17 per day, but financial assistance is also available for qualifying families through the CCDF and On My Way PreK programs. Students will attend classes from Monday through Friday for either a half or full-day, and follow the regular MSD school year calendar. For more information, visit www.msdlw.org or contact Southwood Elementary School Principal Phil Boone by phone at 260-563-8050 or by email

WHO: New COVID cases fall for the 3rd week, deaths also drop

GENEVA (AP) — The number of new coronavirus cases around the world fell 21 percent in the last week, marking the third consecutive week that COVID-19 cases have dropped, the World Health Organization said Tuesday.

In the U.N. health agency’s weekly pandemic report, WHO said there were more than 12 million new coronavirus infections last week. The number of new COVID-19 deaths

fell 8 percent to about 67,000 worldwide, the first time that weekly deaths have fallen since early January. The Western Pacific was the only region that saw an increase in COVID-19 cases, with a 29 percent jump, while the number of infections elsewhere dropped significantly. The number of new deaths also rose in the Western Pacific and Africa while falling everywhere else. The highest

number of new COVID-19 cases were seen in Russia, Germany, Brazil, the U.S. and South Korea. WHO said omicron remains the overwhelmingly dominant variant worldwide, accounting for more than 99 percent of sequences shared with the world’s biggest virus database. It said delta was the only other variant of significance, which comprised fewer than 1 percent of shared sequences.

boonepr@msdlw.k12.in.us; or Metro North Elementary Principal Janette Moore by phone at 260-563-8050 or by email at moorej@msdlw.k12.in.us.

NMHS and Shepherd’s Center sponsoring Smokey Mountain Redneck Tour

The North Manchester Historical Society (NMHS) and the Shepherd’s Center will be traveling Monday, May 16 to Thursday, May 16 to Pigeon Forge, Tennessee for five live shows, an afternoon at Dollywood, free time at The Island, three dinners including Applewood Restaurant and Five Oaks Farm Kitchen during their Smokey Mountain Redneck Tour. Three nights of first-class lodging will be offered, including breakfasts. The cost of the four-day trip is \$825 per person double occupancy and \$995 as a single and includes luxury coach, tours, snacks, luggage handling and any tips and taxes. Reservations are due by Thursday, March 10. For more information, contact tour coordinator Bernie Ferringer by mail at P.O. Box 361, North Manchester, IN 46962; by email at bernievicki@gmail.com or by phone at 260 982-8734.

St. Trolley’s Day Tour on sale

Visit Wabash County has announced the return of the “fan-favorite” St. Trolley’s Day Trolley Tour. Tickets are on sale online or in-person at 221 S. Miami St. Ticket buyers will have the option of choosing between a 6 or 7 p.m. time slot for a “fun-filled tour” on Friday, March 11 or Saturday, March 12. For more information, visit VisitWabashCounty.com/trolley-tours.

Wabash Kiwanis Club’s Pancake Day returns

The Wabash Kiwanis Club’s Pancake Day will take place from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 12, at the Wabash County Fairgrounds at the Bruce Ingham Building, 660 Gillen Ave. Tickets will be \$8 at the door and \$7 in advance for those 13 years and older and \$5 at the door and \$4 in advance for children ages 6 to 12 years. Admission for the event will be free for

children 5 years old and younger. Pancakes, with or without blueberries, will be available, along with sausages and drinks. Sponsorship opportunities for businesses for Pancake Day are available by contacting Donna Siders by email at donnasiders@hotmail.com or by phone at 260-571-1892. Sponsors would receive complimentary tickets to the event and on-site recognition in exchange for their support for \$150.

Manchester Symphony Orchestra presents Trailblazers

The Manchester Symphony Orchestra under Conductor Debra Lynn continues its 83rd season with Trailblazers at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 13, at the Honeywell Center. It celebrates African-American composer Florence Price and her Symphony No. 1 in E minor. The concert will also feature high school and college winners of the orchestra’s concerto competition. Masks and social distancing are required.

UWIN holding native tree sale

Upper Wabash Invasives Network (UWIN) is holding a second tree sale, including red maples, sweetgum, persimmon, tulip (Indiana State tree), redbud, pawpaw, snowberry, red osier dogwood, spicebush and more. Prices depend on the chosen size and range from \$15 to \$90. To place an order, visit <https://lafontainelions.com/shop> or email trody@dnr.in.gov. The order and payment deadline is Tuesday, March 15. Orders will be available for pick up from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 30 at Brandt’s Harley Davidson, 1400 Cass St.

Guardian Warriors seeks to raise funds through shoe donations

The Guardian Warriors group has launched a shoe collection drive to raise money to help local families, send children to college, an upcoming 9/11 event and more. The shoe donations will also support micro-enterprises in developing nations and “reduce what goes into landfills.” The shoe drive, which lasts through May 31, will ultimately earn funds based on the total weight of the

shoes collected. Their goal is to collect 2,500 shoes. Funds2Orgs will purchase all the donated footwear. The shoes will then be redistributed throughout the Funds2Orgs network of micro-enterprise partners in developing nations. Those who are interested in donating shoes may send them through the mail to 3789 W. 100 South, Wabash, IN 46992, or call 765-244-8360. They will also have pick-up dates available from 9 a.m. to noon Friday, April 1 and Saturday, May 7 at the Miami County Fairgrounds, 1029 W. 200 North, Peru.

DivorceCare meets Tuesdays

DivorceCare, a 13-week DVD series sponsored by Wabash Friends Counseling Center, features some of the nation’s foremost Christian experts on topics concerning divorce and recovery, according to group leader Janet Quillen. The support group meets at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday in the Conference Room in the Wabash Friends Counseling Center, 3563 South State Road 13. Wearing a mask is required when entering. Quillen and members of the group meet for dinner at 5:30 p.m. at Subway, 1812 S. Wabash St., on State Road 15. For more information, call 260-563-8453, 877-350-1658, email office@wabashfriends.org, call 260-571-5235 or visit www.divorcecare.org.

Wabash County Animal Shelter partnership to pair emerging readers with dogs, cats

The local Literacy for Companionship program will be held on the third Thursday of each month at the Wabash County Animal Shelter, 810 Manchester Ave. The time will be split into 30-minute shifts from 4 to 6 p.m., with four children scheduled per session. There is no cost for the program and the parents or guardians will be with the children at all times. For more information, call 260-563-3511.

Editor’s note: If you have an upcoming event to submit, please send it by email to news@wabashplaindealer.com no later than five days before the event itself. Please use complete sentences, Associated Press style and Microsoft Word or PDF file formats.

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

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NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Commissioners of Wabash County, Indiana; hereinafter referred to as the OWNER, will receive sealed bids for the following project:
Partial Multi-Bridge Painting Contract
Wabash County, Indiana
Proposals may be forwarded individually by registered mail or delivered in person, addressed to the Wabash County Auditor, 1 W Hill Street, Suite 103, Wabash, IN 46992 prior to 9:00 a.m., March 14, 2022. Bids received after the 9:00 a.m. deadline will not be considered but will be returned to the bidder unopened. Only proposals from those CONTRACTORS who are registered on the Indiana Department of Transportation's current listing of Prequalified Contractors for item D(a) "Highway or Bridge Over Water" or Item E(m) "Cleaning and Painting Bridges" will be considered. Any bids submitted by CONTRACTORS not approved for either of these items on the list will be returned to the bidder unopened.
All proposals will be considered by the OWNER at a public meeting held at the Commissioners Courtroom, and opened and read aloud at 9:30 a.m. local time, March 14, 2022.
The work to be performed and the proposals to be submitted shall include a bid for all general construction, labor, material, tools, equipment, taxes, permits, licenses, insurance, service costs, etc. incidental to and required for this project.
All materials furnished and labor performed incidental to and required by the proper and satisfactory execution of the contracts to be made, shall be furnished and performed in accordance with requirements from the drawings and specifications included in these documents. Plans, Specifications and bidding documents may be obtained from Eastern Engineering per the options and prices listed on the Order page.
These sets may include full-size drawings. All payments and costs of Contract Documents are non-refundable. Plans and specifications may be acquired at the following website or by contacting Eastern Engineering directly on or after February 22, 2022:
<https://distribution.easternengineering.com>
or
Eastern Engineering
9901 Allisonville Road
Fishers, IN 46038
Phone 317-598-0661
Fax 317-598-0630
Each proposal must be enclosed in a sealed envelope with the supplied sealed bid notice, bearing the title of the project, bid opening date and the name and address of the bidder firmly attached. The proposal shall be accompanied by a certified check or acceptable Bidder's Bond, made payable to the Wabash County Auditor, in a sum of not less than ten percent of the total amount of the proposal, which check or bond will be held by the said Wabash County Auditor as evidence that the bidder will, if awarded a contract, enter into the same with the OWNER upon notification from him to do so within ten days of said notification. Failure to execute the contract and to furnish performance bond to Wabash County, Indiana, will be cause for forfeiture of the amount of money represented by the certified check, or bidder's bond, as and for liquidated damages. Form 96, as prescribed by the Indiana State Board of Accounts, shall be properly completed, and submitted with bid proposals.
The Commissioners at their discretion reserve the right to waive any and all informalities in the bidding. All bids submitted shall be valid for 90 days from the opening of the bids.
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, WABASH COUNTY, INDIANA
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NOTICE OF REAL PROPERTY
COMMISSIONERS' CERTIFICATE SALE
Wabash County Indiana
Beginning 10:00 AM Local Time,
April 12, 2022
Courthouse - Commissioners' Room
2nd Floor

STATE OF INDIANA

Wabash County

Pursuant to the laws of the Indiana General Assembly and by resolution of the Wabash County Commissioners, notice is hereby given that the following described tracts or items of real property are listed for sale for delinquent taxes and/or special assessments.

The minimum sale prices listed below are less than the minimum sale prices when offered in the immediately preceding county tax sale held under Section 5 of IC 6-1.1-24 and include all fees and expenses of the county directly attributable to the Commissioners' Certificate Sale. The Wabash County Commissioners will accept bids for the certificates of sale, for the price referred to in IC 6-1.1-24-6.1(a)(3), by public auction on April 12, 2022 at 10:00 AM Courthouse Time at Courthouse - Commissioners' Room 2nd Floor. At the discretion of local officials, the sale may switch to an online format. If those measures are taking place, the public auction will be conducted as an electronic sale under IC 6-1.1-24-6.3(c) at www.zeusauction.com commencing on the same date / time listed above. All location updates will be posted at www.sriservices.com prior to the sale.

Pursuant to IC 6-1.1-24-5.1, a business entity that seeks to register to bid in an Indiana Commissioners' Certificate Sale must provide to the county treasurer, a Certificate of Existence or Foreign Registration Statement in accordance with IC 5-23 from the Secretary of State.

Pursuant to IC 6-1.1-24-3(e), property descriptions may be omitted for properties appearing on the certified list in consecutive years. A complete property list may be obtained at www.sriservices.com or in an alternative form upon request.

A person redeeming each tract or item of real property after the sale of the certificate must pay: (A) the amount of the minimum bid under Section 5 of IC 6-1.1-24 for which the tract or item of real property was last offered for sale; (B) ten percent (10%) of the amount for which the certificate is sold; (C) the attorney's fees and costs of giving notice under IC 6-1.1-25-4.5; (D) the costs of a title search or of examining and updating the abstract of title for the tract or item of real property; (E) all taxes and special assessments on the tract or item of real property paid by the purchaser after the sale of the certificate plus interest at the rate of ten percent (10%) per annum on the amount of taxes and special assessments paid by the purchaser on the redeemed property; and (F), all costs of sale, advertising costs, and other expenses of the county directly attributable to the sale of the certificate.

If the certificate is sold for an amount more than the minimum bid under Section 5 of IC 6-1.1-24 for which the tract or item of real property was last offered for sale and the property is not redeemed, the owner of record of the tract or item of real property who is divested of ownership at the time the tax deed is issued may have a right to the tax sale surplus.

Indiana law prohibits a person who owes delinquent taxes, special assessments, penalties, interest, or costs directly attributable to a prior tax sale, from purchasing tracts or items of real property at a tax sale. Prior to bidding at a tax sale, each bidder must affirm under the penalties for perjury that he or she does not owe delinquent taxes, special assessments, penalties, interest, costs directly attributable to a prior tax sale, amounts from a final adjudication in favor of a political subdivision in this county, any civil penalties imposed for the violation of a building code or ordinance of this county, or any civil penalties imposed by a health department in this county. Further, each bidder must acknowledge that any successful bid made in violation of the above statement is subject to forfeiture. In the event of forfeiture, the bid amount shall be applied to the delinquent taxes, special assessments, penalties, interest, costs, judgments, or civil penalties of the ineligible bidder, and a certificate will be issued to the county executive.

The Commissioners specifically reserve the right to withhold from the sale any parcel which has been listed in error, or which otherwise becomes ineligible for sale either prior to the start or during the duration of the auction. The Auditor's Office does not warrant the accuracy of the key numbers or street addresses published herein and any misstatement in the key number or street address does not invalidate an otherwise valid sale.

Dated: 02/16/2022

852100004 85-07-21-202-007.000-001 \$200.00 FRANCIS DAVID A FAUST 1ST (SERVIA) LOT 16 55 S MULBERRY ST LOT 1 SERVIA 46980

852100006 85-07-21-202-036.000-001 \$200.00 FRANCIS DAVID A FAUSTS 1ST (SERVIA) LOT 7 & N1/2 LOT 8 170 S MAIN ST SERVIA 46980

852100010 85-11-06-304-002.000-003 \$200.00 MOSER DAVID B & MARY L SPEICHERS 3RD (URBANA) LOTS 47 & 48 170 N FIRST ST URBANA 46990

852100011 85-11-06-304-011.000-003 \$200.00 SHELTON CHRIS M SPEICHERS 3RD (URBANA) LOTS 38 & 39 171 N 1ST ST URBANA 46990

852100013 85-11-07-101-037.000-003 \$200.00 PRICKETT MARY L SPEICHERS 2ND (URBANA) LOT 19 COLLEGE ST URBANA 46990

852100017 85-11-34-104-036.000-004 \$200.00 SMITH RAY ENGLISH ADDN OF BRADYS S1/2 LOT 42 220 BENTON ST LAGRO 46941

852100020 85-11-34-202-090.000-004 \$165.92 OWEN ROBERT & LINDA OP EXC PT OWNED BY RR LOT 235 OLD STATE ROAD 24 LAGRO 46941

852100023 85-19-27-203-075.000-006 \$200.00 BULLARD RANDALL E PARKERS 2ND LOT 1 204 W KENDALL ST LA FONTAINE 46940

852100026 85-19-27-401-144.000-006 \$200.00 GILBERT THELMA MCKELVEY & JACKSONS PT 22X280 27-26-7 .18AC WALNUT ST LA FONTAINE 46940

852100028 85-13-13-301-019.000-007 \$200.00 HILEMAN LAURA M KELLERS (RICHVALLEY) 12 75 W WALNUT ST RICHV WABASH 46992

852100035 85-14-11-201-070.000-009 \$200.00 INGERSOLL FINANCIAL MIDWEST LAND TRUST SPRING GARDEN LOT 6 758 N SPRING ST WABASH 46992

852100037 85-14-11-402-116.000-009 \$200.00 LEACH DONALD L PT SW1/4 N RIVER 11-27-6 .04AC 693 CALHOUN ST WABASH 46992

852100038 85-14-11-404-026.000-009 \$200.00 DMI CONSULTING INC HANNAS EASTERN W1/2 LOT 108 & 23X132 LOT 107 453 E MAIN ST WABASH 46992

852100039 85-14-12-131-019.000-009 \$200.00 KISLA TERRY PT NW1/4 12-27-6 .45AC 782 E HILL ST WABASH 46992

852100042 85-14-10-114-016.000-009 \$200.00 TYSON JUNIOR LEE & BARBARA A ELDORADO COMMON AREA LOT 15 (.26AC) ELDORADO DR WABASH 46992

852100043 85-14-40-203-069.000-009 \$200.00 MC CORD JERRY & PEGGY PHILIP HIPKIND LOT 11 331 ALENA ST WABASH 46992

852100044 85-14-40-234-024.000-009 \$200.00 EBERLY BRAD M & APRIL M STURGIS PT W PT LOT 8 FALLS AVE WABASH 46992

852100047 85-14-40-302-027.000-009 \$200.00 JOHNSON RICHARD A E & H SUB CHAS SEC 15-27-6 .08AC MILL ST WABASH 46992

852100048 85-14-40-302-028.000-009 \$200.00 JOHNSON RICHARD A PT CHARLIE RES 15-27-6 .085AC MILL ST WABASH 46992

852100049 85-14-40-402-022.000-009 \$200.00 536 WEST RAILROAD STREET LAND TRUST E & H E1/2 S PT OLOT 17 536 W RAILROAD ST WABASH 46992

852100054 85-14-58-101-020.000-009 \$200.00 ANDERSON RHETT AXEL-DEAN BENT & HUTCHENS LOT 52 BENT ST WABASH 46992

852100057 85-14-63-204-013.000-009 \$200.00 DMI CONSULTING INC J S PIKES LOT 14 1326 ADAMS ST WABASH 46992

852100059 85-09-01-101-068.000-011 \$200.00 U S RAILROAD VEST CORP HALDERMANS 1 CHIPPEWA RD ROANN 46974

852100060 85-09-02-201-011.000-011 \$200.00 U S RAILROAD VEST CORP PT NE1/4 2-28-5 .138557ac W ADAMS ST ROANN 46974

852100062 85-01-35-401-010.000-012 \$200.00 FEATHERS LILLIE MAY TWIN LAKES EST UNIT 2 LOT 7 BLK 5 CRAPPIE RD SILVER LAKE 46982

852100063 85-01-35-401-018.000-012 \$200.00 ROBERTS PATRICIA M TWIN LAKES EST UNIT 2 LOT 3 BLK 5 CRAPPIE RD SILVER LAKE 46982

852100067 85-01-35-401-031.000-012 \$200.00 ROBERTS PATRICIA M TWIN LAKES EST UNIT 2 LOT 16 BLK 4 CRAPPIE DR SILVER LAKE 46982

852100068 85-01-35-401-033.000-012 \$200.00 ROUSCH JOSEPH P & JOSEPH L TWIN LAKES EST UNIT 2 LOT 17 BLK 4 CRAPPIE RD SILVER LAKE 46982

852100069 85-01-35-401-034.000-012 \$200.00 MUSIC ANNA E & IRENE S GOODMAN TWIN LAKES UNIT 2 LOTS 5 & 6 BLK 4 BLUEGILL RD SILVER LAKE 46982

852100070 85-01-35-401-035.000-012 \$200.00 ROUSCH JOSEPH P & JOSEPH L TWIN LAKES EST UNIT 2 18/4 CRAPPIE RD SILVER LAKE 46982

852100073 85-01-35-401-045.000-012 \$200.00 MIKELL BETTY LOU TWIN LAKE EST UNIT 2 LOT 13 BLK 3 MINNOW DR SILVER LAKE 46982

852100075 85-01-35-401-049.000-012 \$200.00 MAPLES JAMES BLAIN & EFFIE MAE TWIN LAKES EST UNIT 2 LOT 14 BLK 3 BLUEGILL RD SILVER LAKE 46982

852100077 85-01-35-401-051.000-012 \$200.00 MAYES PAUL TWIN LAKES EST UNIT 2 LOT 15 BLK 3 BLUEGILL RD SILVER LAKE 46982

852100078 85-01-35-401-053.000-012 \$200.00 MAYES PAUL TWIN LAKES EST UNIT 2 LOT 16 BLK 3 BLUEGILL RD SILVER LAKE 46982

852100079 85-01-35-401-054.000-012 \$200.00 ROBERTS PATRICIA M TWIN LAKES EST UNIT 2 LOT 7 BLK 3 BASS RD SILVER LAKE 46982

852100080 85-01-35-401-063.000-012 \$200.00 HOLT WILLARD & SARAH TWIN LAKES EST UNIT 2 22/3 TURTLE DR SILVER LAKE 46982

852100081 85-01-35-401-064.000-012 \$200.00 HOLT WILLARD & SARAH TWIN LAKES EST UNIT 2 21/3 TURTLE DR SILVER LAKE 46982

852100082 85-01-35-401-065.000-012 \$200.00 HUDSON CARL TWIN LAKES EST UNIT 2 LOT 2 BLK 3 TURTLE DR SILVER LAKE 46982

852100083 85-01-35-401-066.000-012 \$200.00 MOREHEAD STEVEN MICHAEL TWIN LAKES EST UNIT 2 LOT 1 BLK 3 TURTLE DR SILVER LAKE 46982

852100084 85-01-35-403-042.000-012 \$200.00 STANTON DANIEL C SR TWIN LAKES EST UNIT 1 11/6 TURTLE RD SILVER LAKE 46982

852100085 85-01-35-403-047.000-012 \$200.00 MOREHEAD STEVEN MICHAEL TWIN LAKES EST UNIT 1 LOT 14 BLK 6 BLUEGILL RD SILVER LAKE 46982

852100086 85-01-35-403-049.000-012 \$200.00 MOREHEAD STEVEN MICHAEL TWIN LAKES EST UNIT 1 LOT 15 BLK 6 BLUEGILL RD SILVER LAKE 46982

852100087 85-01-35-403-050.000-012 \$200.00 MOREHEAD STEVEN MICHAEL TWIN LAKES EST UNIT 1 LOT 6 BLK 6 BASS RD SILVER LAKE 46982

852100088 85-01-35-403-052.000-012 \$200.00 MOREHEAD STEVEN MICHAEL TWIN LAKES EST UNIT 1 LOT 5 BLK 6 BASS RD SILVER LAKE 46982

852100089 85-01-35-403-054.000-012 \$200.00 MOREHEAD STEVEN MICHAEL TWIN LAKES EST UNIT 1 LOT 4 BLK 6 BASS RD SILVER LAKE 46982

852100090 85-01-35-403-077.000-012 \$200.00 YOUNG JACQUELYN M & FRED A SR TWIN LAKES EST UNIT 1 20/4 PIKE RD SILVER LAKE 46982

852100092 85-01-35-403-097.000-012 \$200.00 SPRANCMANIS VILMARS TWIN LAKES EST UNIT 1 LOT 23 BLK 9 LUKENS LAKE RD SILVER LAKE 46982

852100093 85-01-35-403-098.000-012 \$200.00 SPRANCMANIS VILMARS TWIN LAKES EST UNIT 1 LOT 6 BLK 9 CRAPPIE RD SILVER LAKE 46982

852100094 85-01-35-403-194.000-012 \$200.00 MOREHEAD STEVEN MICHAEL TWIN LAKES EST UNIT 1 LOT 18 BLK 2 LAKESHORE DR SILVER LAKE 46982

Total Number of Properties: 49

I hereby certify that the above real properties have been offered in one tax sale, have not received a bid for at least the amount required under I.C. 6-1.1-24-5 and have been identified in a resolution of the Board of Commissioners for Wabash County, Indiana, to be offered for sale.

Marcie J. Shepherd, Auditor, Wabash County Indiana.

HSPAXLP.02/16,02/23,03/02/2022

Woman refuses to embrace ex-husband’s reappearance

DEAR ABBY: I was married for 10 years before I found out my ex was living a double life – other women, children, etc. We divorced, and afterward, I provided the best possible life for our three children.

My ex was the typical deadbeat dad – never there for his children. Twelve years later, my children are adults, and he has decided to show up and start a relationship with them. Anytime they have milestones with church, college, jobs, weddings, etc., he is there.

I have stepped back and let them decide what kind of relationship they want with him. Even worse, my ex has also rekindled his relationship with my parents and siblings. He’s turning my family against me, although we have both remarried. When I try to talk to them about it, they say, “I’m sorry you feel that way,” “He’s changed,” “Why can’t you forgive him?”

Abby, my ex stole his business partner’s money to live his double life. If he has “changed,” why is he once again trying to turn my family against me? What do I do? Must I divorce myself from my parents and siblings? – Never Rid Of Him

DEAR NEVER RID: A man who lives a double life, neglects his responsibilities as a parent and steals from his business partner without trying to make amends to ALL of them doesn’t appear to have “changed.” Your children, parents and siblings have “chosen” to forgive and welcome him back into the fold regardless of how it affects you. (He must be one heck of a salesman.)

It’s time to look into your heart and decide how much of this togetherness (!) you can tolerate. Some discussions with a licensed mental health professional could be helpful in this regard. If, after that, you conclude that less contact with your parents and siblings under these circumstances would be healthier for you, then do what is best for yourself.

DEAR ABBY: My stepson is being released from prison after assaulting his 9-year-old stepdaughter in my home. He plans on living here with us, with his dad’s blessing. A few years ago, I was sexually assaulted, and I still suffer from PTSD because of it. It’s getting worse as the release date approaches.

My stepson has problems with drugs and alcohol as well as anger issues. He expects us to pay for whatever he wants. We have spent a third of our retirement money on his legal expenses, and there are no plans for him to pay us back. He has mistreated my dog several times, and I do not trust him.

Am I wrong for not wanting him in my home? My husband has turned a deaf ear to my concerns. I guess blood is thicker than water. – Dreading It In The West

DEAR DREADING IT: Trust your instincts. Because your husband has chosen to ignore your concerns about his son living with you, the time has come for you to take care of yourself. Consult an attorney about protecting whatever assets you still have before they are completely depleted, take your dog and get out of there NOW. Believe me, you have my sympathy.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Greet, as a dog

4 Middle Easterner

8 Resolve

12 “— got it!”

13 Lengthy story

14 McClurg or Brickell

15 After deductions

16 Displayed prominently

18 Persona non —

20 Actress — Tyler

21 Mont. neighbor

23 Lowest high tide

26 Dog food brand

29 Bachelor’s lack

32 Work diligently

34 Blended whiskeys

35 Chef

36 “—Pan”

37 Brother’s title

38 Gridiron org.

39 Film segment

40 Incite a dog

41 Id companion

42 Jekyll’s other half

43 Grant, as land

45 Help-wanted abbr.

47 Rap sheet letters

49 Beau

53 Convey

58 Lingerie item

59 Piggy sound

60 Buffalo’s lake

61 Strut along

62 Ebb

63 Way out

64 Literary miscellany

DOWN

1 Bird part

2 Confirm

3 Japanese clog

4 Prospector’s test

5 Team cheer

6 In days gone by

7 Cry loudly

8 Interlace

9 Psyche parts

10 Tell a fib

11 Showed the way

17 Film

19 Low cards

22 Unpaid

24 Suitably

25 Sporty fabric

26 Pet shop sounds

27 Melody’s words

28 Hippie greeting

30 The skinny

31 Disloyal

33 Cry of fright

39 Food, slangily

41 Cartoon shrieks

44 Thank you, to Fritz

46 Chemical compound

48 Mimicked

50 “Fernando” band

51 Household appliance

52 Auto parts store

53 AAA job

54 Narrow inlet

55 Miller or Blyth

56 Galleon cargo

57 Brazilian port

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14		
15				16				17		
18			19				20			
			21		22		23		24	25
26	27	28			29	30	31		32	33
34					35				36	
37					38				39	
40				41					42	
	43	44				45	46			
			47		48		49		50	51
53	54	55				56	57		58	
59					60				61	
62					63				64	

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SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ☆☆☆☆☆

	9			2				
				9		8	3	2
6	8	2		1	5			
3		4				1		
9	1			4			6	8
		6				3		9
			5	2		4	7	3
5	3	8		7				
			1				8	

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How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

3	5	1	6	2	8	4	9	7
9	8	2	5	7	4	3	1	6
6	7	4	9	3	1	2	8	5
4	9	5	8	6	2	1	7	3
8	3	6	1	4	7	9	5	2
2	1	7	3	9	5	8	6	4
7	4	9	2	8	6	5	3	1
5	2	3	7	1	9	6	4	8
1	6	8	4	5	3	7	2	9

JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

HGUSR

LDEEU

KAWNEE

LEKYLI

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Print your answer here: “ ”

“ ”

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday’s Jumbles: MAIZE PANDA NARROW GOPHER

Answer: Many South American countries are home to the Andes because of the way they’re — ARRANGED

Answer to Previous Puzzle

K	O	A		C	H	E	F		A	M	B	O
E	R	G		H	A	H	A		C	O	O	K
B	A	A		A	S	S	T		O	D	O	R
A	T	T	A	C	H		E	U	R	E	K	A
B	E	E	C	H				E	R	N	S	
						H	A	P	P	E	N	T
F	O	R	E		A	I	M		C	L	I	P
A	W	E	S		C	C	I		A	Y	L	A
B	L	T			D	E	A	R	E	R		
				U	S	O			N	O	M	A
G	A	R	A	G	E		A	L	L	E	G	E
R	U	N	S		T	O	N	I		M	E	N
I	D	E	S		A	R	T	S		O	N	S
T	I	D	I		T	E	S	T		S	T	E

BEETLE BAILEY

DO YOU PRAY FOR YOUR PLANTS, CHAPLAIN?

NO, SHOULD I?

THEY LOOK LIKE THEY NEED SOME DIVINE INTERVENTION

BLONDIE

HOLD UP, EVERYBODY! MR. B’S COMING THROUGH

THANKS, ELMO.

C’MON, MR. B, WHAT’D YOU THINK WAS GONNA HAPPEN?

SPLAT

SPLAT

SPLAT

HI & LOIS

THERE’S A LOT OF CHEWING GUM UNDER HERE.

WHEN I GET SOME TEETH, I CAN FINISH CHEWING IT.

BC

OKAY, IT’S OVER THERE.

THAT’S LIKE A TWO-DAY WALK.

DON’T WORRY... THERE’S A SHORTCUT.

REMEMBER ME TO NEVER LET YOU PLAN VACATIONS.

WIZARD OF ID

PET STORE

I’LL NEVER UNDERSTAND GATED COMMUNITIES

DILBERT

DOGBERT THE FINANCIAL EXPERT

WHAT’S THE BEST WAY TO MAKE MONEY IN TODAY’S MARKET?

FRAUD. IT’S THE FASTEST, AND IT HAS THE BIGGEST UPSIDE.

THAT SOUNDS RISKY.

NOT REALLY. I’M DOING IT RIGHT NOW.

GARFIELD

GOOD EVENING, CATS AND KITTENS!

I’M NOT SAYING OPIE IS STUPID...

BUT HE PUTS STAMPS ON HIS EMAILS! THANK YOU!

MEOW CLAP CLAP MEOW MEOWR

MEOWR

MEOWR

MEOWR

FORT KNOX

THE GENERAL WANTED TO KNOW IF HE HAS BAD BREATH.

DOES A LEOPARD HAVE SPOTS?

I TOLD HIM IT IS AND TO SEE HIS DOCTOR.

WHY??

BECAUSE IT COULD BE A SYMPTOM OF SOMETHING SERIOUS.

THEN WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

WEAR GAS MASKS.

PICKLES

WHEN DOGS AND CATS PLAY, THEY’RE HONING THEIR SKILLS TO SURVIVE IN THE WILD.

LOOK AT MUFFIN... SHE’S PRETENDING SHE’S A LIONESS STALKING HER PREY.

OH, AND LOOK AT ROSCOE...

HE’S PRETENDING HE’S A ROTTING ZEBRA CARCASS.

Feeling has never saved a single soul

Q: When I was first saved I really felt a difference, but now a few years later I don’t feel the same confidence in my decision. Is this normal? — F.F.

A: Believing is an experience as real as any experience, yet multitudes are looking for something more — some electric sensation that will bring a thrill to their physical bodies, or some other spectacular manifestation. But the Bible says that a person is justified by faith and not by a feeling (Romans 3:28). A person is saved by trusting in the finished work of Christ on the cross and not by bodily sensations or religious ecstasy.

There certainly is room for feeling in saving faith, but we are not saved by it. Feeling has never saved a

single soul. But when we understand something of Christ’s love for us as sinners, and respond with a love for Christ, love can, and often does, manifest itself through feelings.

But love for Christ is far greater than human love. It is a love that is free from all self. The Bible tells us that perfect love casts out fear (1 John 4:18). Those who love Christ have a confidence in Him that raises them above doubts. Our culture puts feelings first, but true love is not based on feelings.

Often when we feel distant from God it is because we are, and it should be a reminder that we have not given Him His rightful place in our lives. The Bible teaches that faith is the only approach that we have to God. No one has sins forgiven, no one goes to Heaven, no one has assurance of peace until he or she has faith in Jesus Christ. And God commands those who follow Him to be nourished by His Word, to serve Him, and to be a witness to others of what He has done for us.

CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos
Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

“BPBAXTWB VW WBG XTAI VN
PBAX NBSZ-VWPTSPBL. . . SVIB
GOSIVWD LTGW JMB NJABBJ, YBTYSB
OAB VW JMBVA TGW UTWB.”
— LOITJO ZOWVWVD

Previous Solution: “I wouldn’t change a single thing, because one change alters every moment that follows it.” — Sidney Poitier

TODAY’S CLUE: r s t e n b e o

Opinion

SPEAK UP

How to contact your legislators:

U.S. Sen. Todd Young, R-Ind.
B33 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
1-202-224-5623
http://young.senate.gov/contact

U.S. Sen. Mike Braun, R-Ind.
B85 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-4814
http://braun.senate.gov/

U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski, R-District 2
419 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
202-225-3915

State Sen. Andy Zay, R-District 17
Indiana Senate
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
1-800-382-9467
Senator.Zay@iga.in.gov

State Rep. Craig Snow, R-District 18
Indiana House
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
1-800-382-9841
h18@in.gov

To email any Indiana lawmaker, go to this website: www.in.gov/cgi-bin/legislative/contact/contact.pl

LETTERS GUIDELINES

The Wabash Plain Dealer encourages your letters to the editor forum, which is designed to be a forum for exchange of ideas between readers about issues of community importance.

Please sign your letter. Your name will be used with the letter that is published in the Plain Dealer. Your letter will be returned if it is your desire to remain anonymous.

Since we may want to write or call you to verify the letter, we ask that you include your address and telephone number. All our letters to the editor are published in the interest of fair play, so we trust our letter writers will refrain from personal attacks on other persons or groups.

A letter should be less than two pages long, preferably of double-spaced typing.

In order to give everyone an opportunity to participate in this exchange of ideas, please try to limit your letters to one per month per household.

To submit a letter, please write the Wabash Plain Dealer at 99 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Letters also may be hand-delivered to the newspaper office, 99 W. Canal St. The office is open 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you should deliver a letter during non-business hours, a drop slot is located to the left of the front door. Letters may be faxed to 260-563-0816, or email them to news@wabashplainedealer.com with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.



DAILY SCRIPTURE

And now, little children, abide in him, so that when he appears we may have confidence and not shrink from him in shame at his coming.

1 John 2:28

A gas-tax holiday is a terrible idea

Inflation, like a full moon, seems to induce a range of manias. A proposal in Congress to suspend the federal gas tax offers a good example. As the economy recovers fitfully from the pandemic, prices have surged at the fastest pace in four decades. Consumer sentiment has plunged. National average gas prices have risen to \$3.53 a gallon, up from \$2.58 a year ago. Mindful of the political stakes in an election year, President Joe Biden's administration has been casting about for a quick solution. "Every tool is on the table to reduce prices," it says. Unfortunately, that includes a proposal by a group of Democratic senators to waive the 18.4-cents-a-gallon federal tax on gasoline through the end of the year – an idea that would do nothing to fight inflation but would do lasting harm to the federal budget. Revenue from the gas tax goes into the Highway Trust Fund, which is the primary way the U.S. pays for surface transportation. A critical weakness of this system is that the tax was never indexed to inflation; it's been stuck at the same level since President Bill

Clinton's first year in office. The result is that even as Americans have driven more and more miles by the year, the trust fund has been persistently eroded in real terms, leading to a series of emergency measures to stabilize it. It faces a shortfall of some \$160 billion over the next decade. A gas-tax holiday will only compound this problem. The cost of repairing and maintaining highways will rise along with inflation while the trust fund is depleted all the faster. By one estimate, suspending the tax through the end of the year (as the bill envisions) would cost about \$20 billion, hasten the fund's insolvency by a full year, and potentially even increase inflation by stimulating demand for other goods and services. Because it would also add to the demand for gas, it would likely push up pre-tax prices, thereby eliminating much of the consumer benefit and potentially contributing to higher energy costs more generally. Drivers might save a grand total of \$2 a week. It's true that the gas tax needs to eventually be replaced. Cars are growing more fuel-efficient, while the

proportion of electric vehicles (which avoid the tax altogether) is growing quickly. A prudent stopgap would be to modestly increase the gas tax, index it to inflation, and then begin serious work on instituting a tax based on vehicle-miles traveled, as the administration has occasionally seemed to contemplate. As things stand, however, a gas-tax "holiday" seems all too likely to turn into a funeral. What lawmaker in her right mind would champion higher fuel prices in such an environment? The fact is, only so much can be done about inflation in the short term. The Federal Reserve, which must stabilize prices by mandate, should stick to its guns and avoid a costly overreaction. Congress should rededicate itself to fiscal prudence, even as it ponders another social-spending bill. And the administration should stop pretending a magical fix will materialize. If nothing else, all of Washington should stick to a simple principle: Avoid making things worse. *This editorial was first published in Bloomberg.*



MMT is just another fad without evidence

An obscure economic fad known as Modern Monetary Theory is again in the news. This is in part because its leading advocates are backing away from several of its central predictions, while simultaneously claiming the doctrine has won the policy debate. The whole thing is a bit absurd, and should bore most thoughtful Americans. These sort of academic debates, whether they be about some obscure archaeological find or mathematical proof, are best

Michael Hicks



left to sort themselves out within the research community. Still, we live in a time when the way Americans understand truth is under siege by folks from both political extremes. That makes the MMT controversy a useful window into how we create knowledge and uncover truth. It is a long, messy process with some well-accepted rules that foster transparency and reproducibility. First, some background. Macroeconomics is the study of the whole of the economy. The big three questions are what causes growth, inflation and unemployment. The field is challenging for two reasons. First, there are very few recessions to study – only a dozen and a half in the past century. In many ways this makes understanding recessions the equivalent to predicting and understanding hurricanes using only the data from the summer of 1974. Second, the structure of the economy and the policies used to address these issues change constantly. So, for example, if you could estimate a very clear trade-off between inflation and unemployment in 1974, there'd be little reason to expect it would be the same in 2011. The answers macro-economists come up with are important because they drive spending decisions on trillions of dollars and interest rates that affect the world's economy. Not surprisingly, the process is full of errors. Indeed, two of the most famous macroeconomic theorists, both Nobel laureates, make the central case that the process of intervening in a recession is enough to make earlier predictions wrong. If economics risks these types of mistakes, how can we have any trust anything that we estimate or predict? That is a central concern

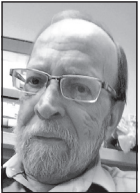
that gets at the heart of the MMT debate. Indeed it is the question that animates all research, and has done so for several hundred years. The modern way we confront this issue is not especially complex. For the past several hundred years, researchers offer some sort of testable hypothesis for their ideas. This "falsifiability" allows critics and supporters alike to test your hypothesis in a sort of marketplace of ideas. The way we test these ideas varies a bit between disciplines, each of which attempt to build a rigorous approach. Much of the technical research professors publish is an effort to build a better falsifiability test. In economics, and indeed political science, finance, public administration and several other fields, the nearly universal approach to falsifiability lies in creating some sort of mathematical relationship that can be falsified with data. This has several important benefits. First, it is a precise way to help you discover errors in your own thinking. Second, it draws a wider audience of researchers to your ideas as other researcher work to disprove your work. The final benefit of this process is that it removes the individual ego from the process, and allows others to build upon the ideas. A modern physicist may never read a study by Einstein to grasp the fullness of his work. Thousands of newer scholars have improved upon these ideas, won their own Nobel prizes and added to our species understanding of the world. And that brings us back to MMT. The proponents of MMT have resisted any effort to build testable hypotheses for their theories. There are literally no central MMT propositions that its advocates have explained in a way that can be falsified by data. It is not just that they haven't provided mathematical equations, they don't have a written description of a falsifiable hypothesis. In a very real sense, the advocates of Modern Monetary Theory aren't rejecting some aspect of modern economics. That would be useful. The approach MMT advocates take rejects the ways in which ideas are offered and vetted for 300 years. This makes clear that MMT has never been about uncovering truth, but promoting a set of popular policy ideas. But, there are two better ways to know the failure of MMT, and neither require knowing any economics. The loudest critics of MMT come

from economists who share many of the same policy goals of heavy federal spending and universal job guarantees. A few fiscally conservative economists have criticized MMT, but the most scathing critiques come from progressive economists. On the center left, Larry Summers, Brad DeLong and Noah Smith have been unsparing in their description of the failure. But, the most painful criticisms come from most progressive economists, including Paul Krugman and Thomas Palley. An even more telling criticism of MMT comes from its closest political allies. A central argument of MMT is that deficits don't matter and that tax increases are the optimal tool for curbing inflation. The most prominent MMT economist even served on the Bernie Sanders campaign. Yet, both Senator Warren and Senator Sanders wholly reject MMT policies. In the presidential campaign, they both presented budgets that they claimed were paid for by tax increases, hence rejecting the most visible aspect of MMT. In today's inflationary environment, neither are calling for any aspect of MMT to address the problem. This brings us back to what we can learn from the MMT discussion in a world where objective truth is under assault. We are a wonderfully heterogeneous species, with diverse interests and preferences. We know different things derived from differing world views and experiences and have chosen to live in a nation that explicitly accommodates nearly all these differences. Central to that is a process of developing shared facts and truth. The process at uncovering facts and truth is built on institutions that share and test these facts in a competitive process – the marketplace of ideas. The marketplace of ideas takes place in courts, schools and universities, in the media and on social media platforms, in government statistical agencies and in think tanks. It is not always pretty or quick, but in a world where thousands of Americans claim rigged elections without evidence and millions avoid vaccines because of rumor, it has never been more important. The simple truth is that MMT is really no different than false election fraud claims or anti-vaxxers. Theirs is not a rejection of evidence or science or current public policy, but of the modern world itself. For that reason alone they should be ignored. *Michael Hicks may be reached by email at cbdirector@bsu.edu.*

The 'Quilhot bid'

I have a new phrase to add to your vocabulary and self-help guide: the Quilhot bid. It comes from Russ Quilhot, who hosted the weekly afternoon card games a group of us old codgers participated in. I played bridge with him Wednesday before last. On Thursday he died. It was one of those abrupt and unwelcome events that encourage us to put everything else in perspective.

Leo Morris



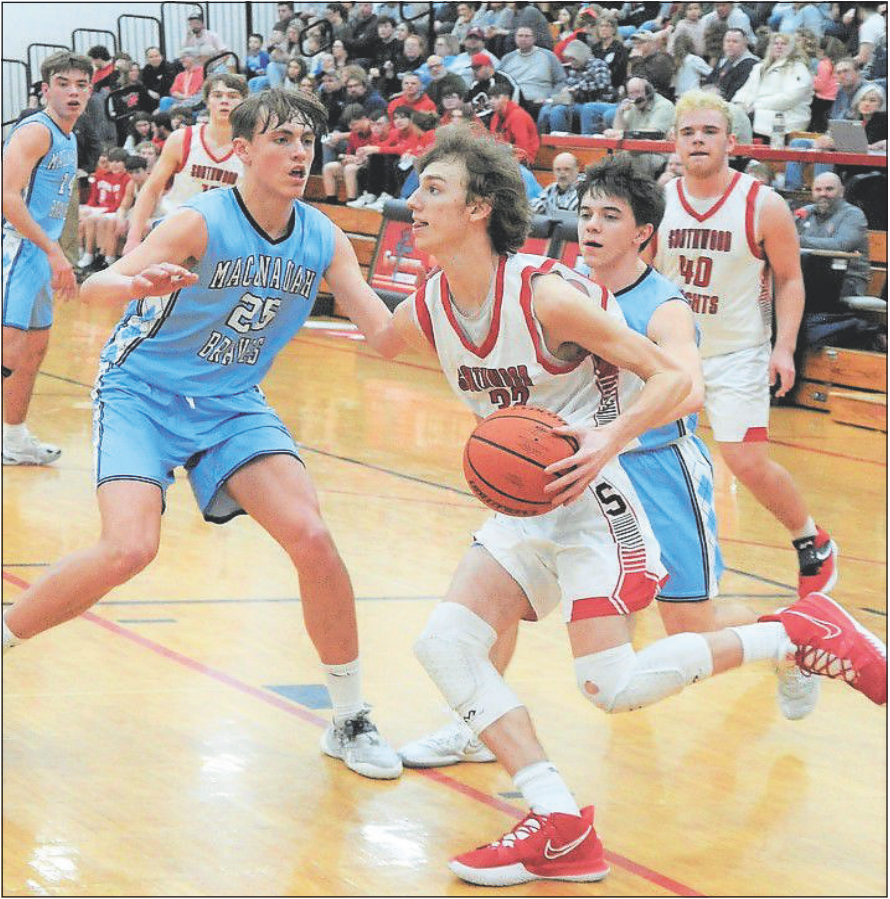
I am tempted to say he was my friend, but that would be presumptuous. He lived for 89 interesting and productive years, and I knew him only for the last three. But we enjoyed each other's company, and his knowledge of history and zest for discussing it made our Wednesday afternoons informative as well as entertaining. He was also a very good card player, and being his partner taught me something important about bridge. It's not always about the strength of the hand. We would be having what players would call a bad run. All the good cards would be going to the other side, hand after hand, and we'd be getting our brains beat out. Russ would sigh and say something like, "You know, it's no fun losing," look at his hand, then jump into the bidding with a reckless abandon totally unjustified by the cards he was holding. He might have eight points and a couple of four-card suits, which an experienced bridge player will tell you is barely enough to support a partner's bid, let alone make an opening one. But he'd do it anyway. That was the Quilhot bid, a damn-the-odds maneuver meant to at least shake things up if not turn them around. And the thing is that he sometimes parlayed that unorthodox move into a winning hand. One of the secrets bridge players learn is that if the 40 high-card points (which we must obsessively count), are distributed more or less evenly, no one has a hand worth opening with. But any two hands in combination could win a modest bid if one of the players has nerve enough to take a wild shot. People who knew Russ longer and better than I say the way he played bridge was the way he approached life – not always intimidated by the weakness of his hand. I don't doubt it. He played football for Purdue, then became a member of the elite Marine Corps. He was a successful businessman, then he and his wife Jeanette started a nationally respected horse breeding and training farm at an age when most people would be thinking ahead to retirement. He was the respected rather than feared patriarch of a large and loving multi-generational family. You do not have a life like that by always adding up the points and just playing the strong hands. Sometimes you have to take a chance on a weak hand. I hasten to add that this is not gambling, at least as that word has come to be used. Since the Supreme Court opened the door to sports gambling, millions of Americans have bet and lost billions in physical spaces like casinos and digitally by merely pushing a few buttons on their smart phones. On the recent Super Bowl alone, \$7 billion was wagered, a 10-fold increase over last year. That is just stupid – desperate chances taken by foolish people against overwhelming odds, encouraged by unscrupulous governments preying on human weakness. What Russ did, in cards and in life, was to trust that his experience, wisdom and skill would occasionally see him through when his position wasn't the strongest. It might seem like taking a chance, but it was in fact a calculated risk. Think about that the next time something really important seems about to slip away from you, when you think you've already used up your best efforts. Sigh, take a breath, and make a Quilhot bid. *Leo Morris, columnist for The Indiana Policy Review, is winner of the Hoosier Press Association's award for Best Editorial Writer. Morris, as opinion editor of the Fort Wayne News-Sentinel, was named a finalist in editorial writing by the Pulitzer Prize committee. Contact him at leoedits@yahoo.com.*

SOUTHWOOD VARSITY BOYS BLOW OUT NORTHFIELD



Southwood's junior guard Nathan Lehner directs this fourth quarter layup against county foe Northfield last Friday evening at NHS. The Knights took charge in this one as they notched their 10th win of the regular season beating the Norse 79-49.

SOUTHWOOD VARSITY BOYS DEFEAT MACONAQUAH



Photos by Greg Dannacher / Plain Dealer
The Knights' Dylan Stout, No. 33, drives the lane against his Brave opponents during first-half varsity action as Southwood hosted Maconaquah on Friday, Feb. 11. In a tight match-up, the Knights were victorious 76-62.

SOUTHWOOD JV BOYS DEFEAT MACONAQUAH



Sophomore guard, No. 10, Caleb Wyatt fights a strong man-to-man defense by North Miami's Dylan Baker, No. 23, during first half-action Friday, Feb. 11 at SHS. Southwood's junior varsity squad would go on to best the Braves 50-31.

SOUTHWOOD JV BOYS DEFEAT NORTHFIELD



Southwood's Kaden Rody, left, brings down a rebound against Norse defenders Kamden Carpenter, No. 34, and Ryland Miller, No. 41, during junior varsity action on the evening of Friday, Feb. 18 at Northfield. The Knights' junior squad bested their host 55-46.

Southwood varsity girls basketball finds growth in good season

The Knights defeated Northfield and Wabash for first-ever county championship

By CLAY MAXFIELD
Wabash Plain Dealer
Freelance Reporter

Despite losing in early in sectional play to Northfield, Southwood's varsity girls basketball team compiled a season in which they won the Wabash County Tournament and notched 12 wins. The most important facet of the Knights' 2022 season may be the chance to put young talent on the varsity floor, furthering their development for a 2023 season that promises to be full of potential and veteran leadership. "We had a successful season," said Southwood head coach Kenneth Norman. "We had an injury to a starter

early that she ended up missing a whole season and that kind of changed our season. Some freshmen had to step in and play at a level that maybe they weren't ready to play at and learn on the fly." Junior guard Ella Hauptert led the team in scoring with 19.9 points per game (ppg) while Aleia Sweet complimented Southwood's offense with 10.7 ppg and a team high 5.4 rebounds per game (rpg). Bailey Wyatt, the team's lone senior, finished the season averaging 7.2 ppg and 5.3 rpg. At the end of December, the Knights defeated Northfield and Wabash for their first ever county championship while coasting into their final month of the regular season on a four game winning streak. For Norman, Hauptert's play was one of many

See SOUTHWOOD, page A10

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With sectional loss, season ends for Manchester varsity girls hoops

Squires' season ends with an overall record of 3-20

By **CLAY MAXFIELD**
Wabash Plain Dealer Freelance Reporter

A sectional loss to Carroll High School wasn't enough to dim the mood for Manchester's varsity girls head coach Allison Kaufman after the Cougars ended their season early with a 62-50 defeat. "Entering into sectionals, it's always that fresh season which is always nice to have that new start and we have shown so much growth overall as the season has progressed," Kaufman said. "We have a young team that not many

girls had any varsity experience coming in so we were a completely different stepping on the court against Carroll Flora than we were when we played them back in December." While the Squires season ended with an overall record of 3-20, Manchester bounced back from a losing streak with back-to-back wins against Wabash and a one-point victory over Peru. With just two seniors on their roster, Manchester was led by Ainsley West who averaged 12.6 ppg along with 6.3 rebounds. Averaging 37 points a game as a team, Kaufman noted that her team's aggressive offense combined with their much-improved

defense throughout the year was what kept them in the game against Carroll. "For us, we showed a lot of growth offensively throughout the year. Especially in that game, we did a great job of looking to attack the basket and finding each other. ... It was really our defense that game and defense has been something all season that has been our strong suit at this point," she said. The Squires will be reloaded with talent to build around next season as Brookelynn Buzzard returns for her sophomore year after averaging 9.2 ppg in her first year of varsity experience. In Kaufman's first season as

Manchester's varsity head coach, the Squires used the regular season as a transitional period but will now be able to hit the ground running come this off-season and leading into 2023. "We started from ground zero and we didn't have a summer to do it," Kaufman said. "Now looking forward to having a spring and a summer where we can continue to build that culture and continue to work on the fundamentals of our game and our chemistry on the court." "It's really exciting moving forward that we're going to have more kids next year that are going to come back with that varsity experience."

As for what Kaufman learned in her sixth year of operating as a head coach, it was all about finding ways to improve each day. "Every year you walk into like 'what am I going to learn this year?' It was kind of our team principle this year to focus on that journey and not the outcomes. That was really big for me too this season and a really big growing piece that I am focused on my journey as well as a coach and what I can take out of every practice and every game and how I can get better." Clay Maxfield, Wabash Plain Dealer freelance reporter, may be reached by email at sports@wabashplaindealer.com.

Northfield varsity girls basketball shines despite championship loss

With a final record of 13-9, the Norse won seven of their final nine games of the season

By **CLAY MAXFIELD**
Wabash Plain Dealer Freelance Reporter

A loss in the sectional championship game to North Miami wasn't enough to sully the season that Northfield's varsity girls basketball team put together. With a final record of 13-9, the Norse won seven of their final nine games of the season including a rout of Southern Wells in the first round of postseason play followed by a three-point victory against Southwood in the semifinals. First-year head coach Brandon Baker was pleased with the way his team devel-

oped throughout the season. "I thought they did well," Baker said. "Coming off of losing five starters and having people that didn't have a lot of playing time. As young as we were, I was pretty happy with how we finished." After starting the season off rocky, losing four of their first five, Northfield put together a four-game win streak at the beginning of December that included victories over county rivals, Southwood, Wabash and Manchester. The Norse went through nearly the entire month of January without a loss before snapping dropping their final regular-season game to Rochester, 46-38. "It took us a little while to kind of assume the role that they should be in but I thought as the year went on, we kept getting better and better each game. ... Overall, we continued to get

better and as a coach, that's really all you can ask for. To continue to improve every time you step on the court," Baker said. As a team, Northfield was led by sophomore Hannah Holmes in scoring with 12.6 ppg while almost averaging a double-double with 9.4 rebounds per game. Emily Pennington, one of three seniors, complimented Holmes scoring with 9.3 ppg and 7.5 rpg. With Pennington's offense along with Addy Rosen (5.2 ppg) and Ainsley Dale (4.7 ppg), the Norse will graduate nearly 43 percent of their scoring average this season (45 ppg). "We had a chance to win conference and we had a chance to win a sectional," Baker said. "Coming into the year, no way would I have thought that we would at least have the opportunity to do those two things and that's just by the sheer de-

termination that they had." "Just through their hard work and determination, they gave themselves that opportunity." In their sectional championship versus North Miami,

Northfield trailed by just four at halftime but couldn't overcome a 34 point second half by the Warriors despite the Norse shooting 46 percent from the field. However, for each suc-

cessful offensive possession that Northfield put together, North Miami matched as they finished the game with a 56 percent shooting average while forcing Northfield into 19 turnovers.

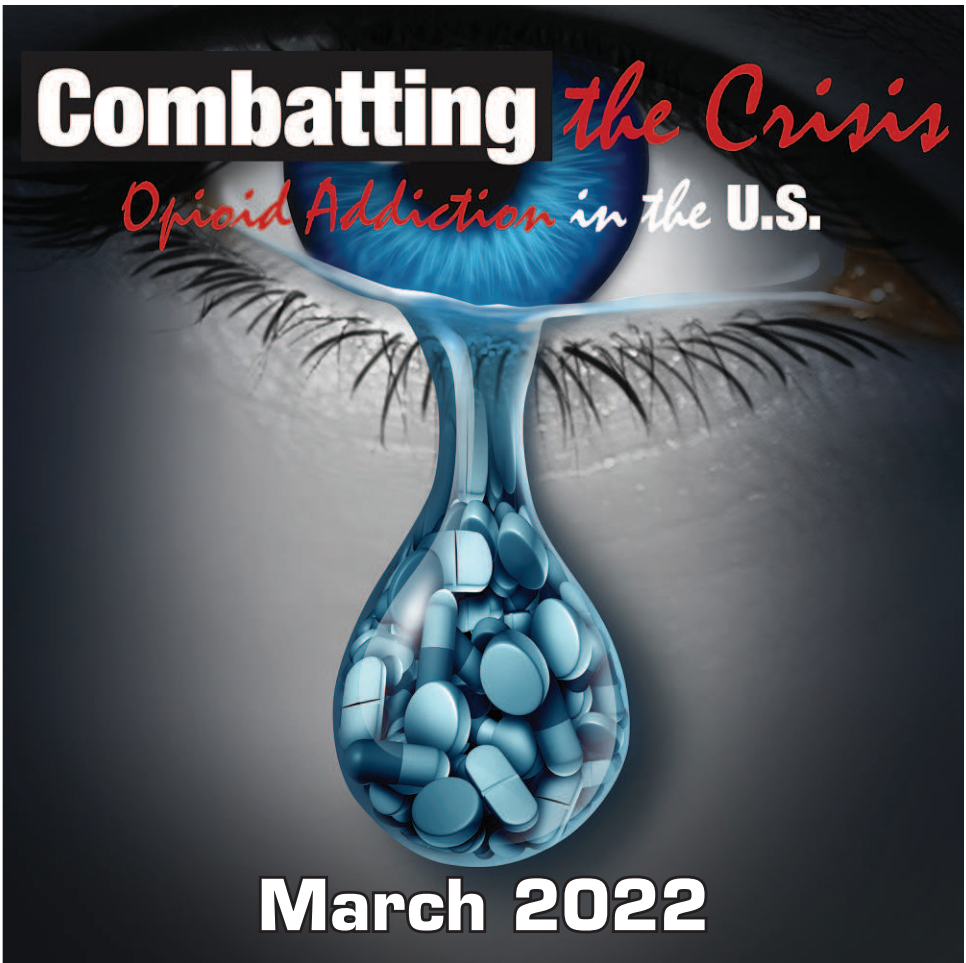
SOUTHWOOD

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bright spots in a season of growth. "We had some girls really step up. Of course, Ella Hauptert, she's our best play-

er. She led us in points and assists. She really matured as a player and has all of the physical skills to be a really good player but she's just matured and can handle the pressure that the game brings with her when she's the focal point of the de-

fense," Norman said. As a team, Southwood utilized an offense in which they relied on speeding other teams up on defense to average 50.1 ppg with a roster that consisted of four freshmen, three sophomores and five juniors.



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